

## Federal Acquisition Regulation

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AUTHORITY: 40 U.S.C. 121(c); 10 U.S.C. chapter 137; and 42 U.S.C. 2473(c).

### 33.000 Scope of part.

This part prescribes policies and procedures for filing protests and for processing contract disputes and appeals.

[50 FR 2270, Jan. 15, 1985]

## Subpart 33.1—Protests

### 33.101 Definitions.

As used in this subpart—

*Day* means a calendar day, unless otherwise specified. In the computation of any period—

(1) The day of the act, event, or default from which the designated period of time begins to run is not included; and

(2) The last day after the act, event, or default is included unless—

(i) The last day is a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday; or

(ii) In the case of a filing of a paper at any appropriate administrative forum, the last day is a day on which weather or other conditions cause the closing of the forum for all or part of the day, in which event the next day on which the appropriate administrative forum is open is included.

*Filed* means the complete receipt of any document by an agency before its close of business. Documents received after close of business are considered filed as of the next day. Unless other-

wise stated, the agency close of business is presumed to be 4:30 p.m., local time.

*Interested Party for the purpose of filing a protest* means an actual or prospective offeror whose direct economic interest would be affected by the award of a contract or by the failure to award a contract.

*Protest* means a written objection by an interested party to any of the following:

(1) A solicitation or other request by an agency for offers for a contract for the procurement of property or services.

(2) The cancellation of the solicitation or other request.

(3) An award or proposed award of the contract.

(4) A termination or cancellation of an award of the contract, if the written objection contains an allegation that the termination or cancellation is based in whole or in part on improprieties concerning the award of the contract.

[50 FR 2270, Jan. 15, 1985, as amended at 53 FR 43391, Oct. 26, 1988; 54 FR 19827, May 8, 1989; 60 FR 48225, Sept. 18, 1995; 62 FR 64933, Dec. 9, 1997; 66 FR 2132, Jan. 10, 2001]

### 33.102 General.

(a) Contracting officers shall consider all protests and seek legal advice, whether protests are submitted before or after award and whether filed directly with the agency or the General Accounting Office (GAO). (See 19.302 for protests of small business status, 19.305 for protests of disadvantaged business status, and 19.307 for protests of service-disabled veteran-owned small business status.)

(b) If, in connection with a protest, the head of an agency determines that a solicitation, proposed award, or award does not comply with the requirements of law or regulation, the head of the agency may—

(1) Take any action that could have been recommended by the Comptroller General had the protest been filed with the General Accounting Office; and

(2) Pay appropriate costs as stated in 33.104(h).

(3) Require the awardee to reimburse the Government's costs, as provided in